



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/725,581 | 12/03/2003 | Chul Kim | 1594.1306 | 3457 |
| 21171 | 7590 | 03/29/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005 | | | FASTOVSKY, LEONID M | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3742 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/725,581 | Applicant(s) KIM ET AL. ed | |
| | Examiner Leonid M Fastovsky | Art Unit 3742 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 14-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9,12 and 14-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hsieh (CA2031700).

Hsieh teaches a cooking apparatus 1 comprising at least one slot 15 for cooking food and at least one lever 72 and at least one control device 61, a casing including at least one removable heating plate, and inherently comprising a power cord supplying electric power to the cooking apparatus.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haroun et al in view of Wang (5,938,959).

Art Unit: 3742

Haroun teaches a cooking apparatus to cook food comprising a tray 28 with electrical heating means 36 (corresponding to the claimed heating plate), a power connection 46, a cabinet 10 supporting the plate, and an upper cooking slot 40 for cooking food and also being a toaster, and at least one lever 30 and at least one power control device and a switch 48 controlling power to the at least one slot. Also, Haroun teaches a power control switch 32a to set a heat power of the at least one removable heating plate (28,36). However, Haroun is silent regarding the heating plate being removable from the cabinet. Wang discloses a cooking oven with removable heating plate-tray 100 having a heating element 96. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Haroun's invention to include a removable heating plate as taught by Wang in order to clean the tray as necessary.

5. Claims 4-6 and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haroun in view of Wang and further in view of Grove et al.

Haroun in view of Wang teaches substantially the claimed invention, but does not teach a heater coil, a contact terminal and a heater terminal. Grove teaches an electric toaster oven comprising heater coil 52, 54 and contact terminals 22 and 24. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Haroun in view of Wang to include a heater coil for better thermal efficiency and terminals in order to provide secured electrical contacts for the oven as taught by Grove (Col. 4, lines 9-20 and 45-55).

As for claims 22-24, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have the body being bent along the edge and made out of heat-resistant insulation

Art Unit: 3742

material, and also having the cooking apparatus a countertop cooling apparatus as a matter of design choice because applicant has not disclose the material and the countertop provides an advantage, used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem.

6. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haroun in view of Wang and further in view of Constable.

Haroun in view of Wang teaches substantially the claimed invention, but does not teach a water drain. Constable teaches a cooking oven having a drain 32. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Haroun in view of Wang to include a water drain to discharge remaining water in order to preserve food taste during cooking as taught Constable (col.4, lines 25 –33).

7. Claims 8-9, 12 and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haroun in view of Wang and further in view of Constable.

Haroun in view of Wang discloses substantially the claimed invention, but does not disclose a heater coil covered with an insulation material. Constable discloses a cooking oven comprising a hot plate 22 comprising a heating coil 28 and an insulation material 27 (Fig. 11). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Haroun in view of Wang to include a heating coil covered by an insulation material as taught by Constable as obvious functional equivalent.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 10-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 and 14-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leonid M Fastovsky whose telephone number is 571-272-4778. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th. 8.00 am -6.00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 571-272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 3742




Leonid M Fastovsky

Examiner

Art Unit 3742

3/17/05

lmf



ROBIN O. EVANS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

3/18/05